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IM31/0312

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NEW YORK NY 10118-0110

CHU, J

EXAMINER

1752

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

0325/01

DATE MAILED:

This is a communication from the examiner in charge of this application.
COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS

NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance and Issue Fee Due or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

This communication is responsive to the Amendment rec. 2/27/01.

The allowed claim(s) is/are 6, 21 and 22.

The drawings filed on _____ are acceptable as formal drawings.

Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

All Some* None of the:

Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*Certified copies not received: _____

Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE FOR SUBMITTING NEW FORMAL DRAWINGS, OR A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION. This three-month period for complying with the REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL is extendable under 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL APPLICATION, PTO-152, which discloses that the oath or declaration is deficient. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION IS REQUIRED.

Applicant MUST submit NEW FORMAL DRAWINGS

because the originally filed drawings were declared by applicant to be informal.

including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948, attached hereto or to Paper No. _____.

including changes required by the proposed drawing correction filed on _____, which has been approved by the examiner.

including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment/Comment or in the Office action of Paper No. _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings.

Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Any reply to this notice should include, in the upper right hand corner, the APPLICATION NUMBER (SERIES CODE/SERIAL NUMBER). If applicant has received a Notice of Allowance and Issue Fee Due, the ISSUE BATCH NUMBER and DATE of the NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE should also be included.

Attachment(s)

- Notice of References Cited, PTO-892
- Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). _____
- Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948
- Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152
- Interview Summary, PTO-413
- Examiner's Amendment/Comment
- Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for the Deposit of Biological Material
- Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance

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REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The claimed invention is drawn to a chemically amplified resist comprising photoacid generator contained at 0.2 parts to 25 parts by weight and polymer contained at 75 parts to 99.8 parts by weight and copolymerized between compound, and monomer, said polymer having an average molecular weight ranging between 1,000 and 50,000 and expressed by the general formula seen in claim 22.

The formula requires the presence of two of the three shown comonomers in the copolymer, those defined with the variable x and z. The closest prior art reference to CHOI ET AL teaches a comonomer meeting the scope of the monomer defined with the variable x. Now that claims require the presence of a second comonomer defined by z, CHOI ET AL fails to anticipate or render obvious the claimed invention.

Applicants have further overcome the rejection under 35 U.S. C. 112, 2nd with the amendment now reciting one scope as opposed to the broad and narrow scope as recited in canceled claim 3.

Claims 22 and 23 have been renumbered as claims 21 and 22 based on 37 CFR 1.126 for renumbering claims and the dependence of claim 6 was changed to 21 because it was previous dependent on 22, now renumbered as claim 21. Claim 21 was never submitted in an official response.

Claims 6, 21 and 22 are now seen as allowable and passed to issue.

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Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Examiner Chu whose telephone number is (703) 308-2298. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday from 9:30 am to 6:00 pm.

The fax phone number for this Group is (703) 305-3599.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0661.


John S. Chu
Primary Examiner, Group 1700

J.Chu
March 11, 2001